Message Text

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PAGE 01 EC BRU 03830 291803Z

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LIMITED OFFICIAL USE EC BRUSSELS 3830

E.O. 11652: NA TAGS: EFIN, EEC

SUBJECT: EC COMMISSION VICEPRESIDENT'S VISIT TO VENEZUELA AND

COSTA RICA

REF: A. EC BRUSSELS 3568 B. EC BRUSSELS 3155

1. VICE PRESIDENT HAFERKAMP CALLED IN AMBASSADOR GREENWALD TO INFORM HIM OF HIS TRIPS TO VENEZUELA AND COSTA RICA DURING THE WEEK OF APRIL 15. HAFERKAMP MET WITH THE GOV OFFICIALS, INCLUDING PRESIDENT PEREZ, PRIMARILY TO SOUND OUT GOV INTEREST IN THE EC BORROWING FACILITY. HAFERKAMP SAID THAT GOV WOULD LIKE TO BROADEN ITS INTERNATIONAL CONTACTS, PARTICULARLY WITH REGIONAL BODIES LIKE THE EC.THE GOV WOULD LIKE TO DRAW ON THE EC EXPERIENCE TO ASSIST IN LATIN AMERICAN REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT. IN LIGHT OF HAFERKAMP'S TRIP AND SOAMES' VISIT TO MEXICO, THE COMMISSION WILL CONSIDER WAYS OF STRENGTHENING EC RELATIONS WITH LATIN AMERICA, SUCH AS SENDING EXPERTS TO HELP IN REGIONAL PROJECTS. HAFERKAMP SAID THE EC WOULD KEEP THE US INFORMED AND ANY EC EFFORTS WOULD BE COORDINATED WITH THE US.

AMBASSADOR GREENWALD SAID HE WELCOMED EC INTEREST IN LATIN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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AMERICA--SUCH CROSS-FERTILIZATION WAS HEALTHY IN BOTH

POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC TERMS.

- 2. AS INDICATED IN REF A, THE GOV IS PREPARED TO CONSIDER A LOAN TO THE EC BORROWING FACILITY ON FAVORABLE TERMS. HAFERHAMP SAID THE GOV PLACED NO POLITICAL CONDITIONS ON THIS LOAN PROPOSAL. IN ADDITION TO A POSSIBLE LOAN TO THE FACILITY, THE GOV IS ALSO CONSIDERING A DIRECT \$200 MILLION PLACEMENT TO THE EUROPEAN INVESTMENT BANK.
- 3. HAFERKAMP VISITED COSTA RICA ON APRIL 16-17 AT THE INVITATION OF PRESIDENT DANIEL ODUBER QUIROS, WHOM HE MET IN BONN LAST YEAR. THE GOCR DID NOT RAISE ANY IMPORTANT ISSUES WITH HAFERKAMP. HAFERKAMP AGREED TO ASSIST IN THE VISIT OF SEVERAL COSTA RICAN PARLIAMENTARIANS WHO WILL BE VISITNG BRUSSELS BEFORE THE NEXT INTERNATIONAL PARLIAMENTARY UNION MEETING. HAFERKAMP SAID THERE WERE ALSO SOCIAL DEMOCRAT PARTY CONNECTIONS INVOLVED IN BOTH THE VENZUELAN AND COSTA RICAN VISITS.

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